

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 ACDA-19 EA-11

SCI-06 AEC-11 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-02 TRSE-00

XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-08

AGR-20 TAR-02 RSR-01 CU-04 /262 W

----- 065103

P R 131735 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4503

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

USMISSION BERLIN

AUSMISSION NATO BRUSSELS 240

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 BONN 5505

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: FRG FONMIN'S VIEWS ON US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS

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1. SUMMARY: THE PRESTIGIOUS FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG ON APRIL 13 CARRIED AN EXCLUSIVE ARTICLE BY FRG FONMIN SCHEEL ON US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS. THE PIECE IS VERY REASONABLE AND POSITIVE IN TONE, AND APPEARS TO BE DESIGNED TO SET THE STAGE FOR THE UPCOMING VISIT OF SCHEEL AND THE CHANCELLOR TO WASHINGTON IN MAY. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE ARTICLE, WHICH WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S OFFICIAL BULLETIN, WAS PREPARED FOR THE NEWSPAPER AT SCHEEL'S INITIATIVE. THE TEXT FOLLOWS. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN TEXT: THE CONTACT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE U. S. AND THE FRG IS FRIENDLY, EVEN CORDIAL. WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS THE ATTITUDE OF OUR PEOPLE TOWARD THE U. S. SOLDIERS IS OPEN- MINDED. THERE IS NO DIVERGENCE BETWEEN U. S. AND GERMAN INTERESTS; INSTEAD THEY RATHER SUPPLEMENT EACH OTHER. FAMILIARITY WITH EACH OTHER'S AFFAIRS AND MUTUAL CONFIDENCE HAVE INCREASED DURING MORE THAN 25 YEARS OF CLOSE ASSOCIATION. THE DAYS OF NONCOMMITAL AND VAGUE PROTESTATIONS OF FRIENDSHIP HAVE GONE. WE PURSUE A MUTUALLY BINDING POLICY WHICH IS COORDINATED IN DETAIL. THIS EVEN APPLIES TO QUESTIONS OF WORLD POLITICS SUCH AS DETENTE IN EUROPE.

ONE MIGHT REACH THE CONCLUSION THAT IT WOULD BE BEST TO LET ALL THIS GO ON UNDISTURBED. THIS IS IN FACT THE CONCLUSION REACHED IN A JOINT STUDY ON GERMAN- AMERICAN RELATIONS PREPARED BY THE PLANNING STAFFS OF THE TWO FOREIGN MINISTRIES.

WHAT ARE THE GROUNDS FOR THE ASSERTION THAT THERE IS A CRISIS? THERE IS, TO BEGIN WITH, THE CRITICISM OF U. S. POLICY IN VIETNAM, AND THE DEMANDS BY INDIVIDUAL JUSOS FOR AN AMERICAN WITHDRAWAL. A REVIEW OF THE EVENTS IN 1968 AND 1969 PUTS THESE THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE. AT THAT TIME AN ANTI- AMERICAN TREMOR ACTUALLY SHOOK THE FRG AND EUROPE. GOETHE'S EXCLAMATION 'AMERICA, YOU ARE BETTER OFF' NO LONGER APPLIED IN EVERY CASE. THE MODEL COUNTRY OF EUROPEAN REFUGEES WAS BESET BY INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PROBLEMS AND FRUSTRATIONS. WHAT AMERICA HAD DONE PARTICULARLY FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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US -- SAVING US FROM STARVATION, THE MARSHALL PLAN,

THE AIR LIFT -- NO LONGER MEANT ANYTHING FOR THE YOUNG
GENERATION
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52
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

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AGR-20 TAR-02 RSR-01 CU-04 /262 W
----- 065405

P R 131735 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4504

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E. O. 11652: N/ A
TAGS: PFOR, GW

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THIS ALSO HAS BENEFITED THE U. S., WHICH
BETWEEN 1958 AND 1971 INCREASED ITS EXPORTS TO THE
EEC FROM 2.8 BILLION DOLLARS TO 9 BILLION DOLLARS.
THINGS ALSO LOOK FAVORABLE FOR THE U. S. IN THE INVEST-
EMNT SECTOR. AS EARLY AS IN 1968, THE TURNOVER OF
AMERICAN SUBSIDIARIES IN EEC NATIONS AMOUNTED TO
14 BILLION DOLLARS, I. E. TWO- AND- ONE- HALF TIMES THE
TOATL OF AMERICAN EXPORTS TO THIS AREA. AMOUNTING
TO 22.5 BILLION DOLLARS, AMERICAN INVESTMENTS IN THE
NINE EC COUNTRIES MAKE UP MORE THAN A FOURTH OF
AMERICA'S OVERALL FOREIGN INVESTMENTS. THE PROFIT IS
CONSIDERABLE. MISINFORMATION AND MISUNDERSTANDING
EXIST IN THIS FIELD ALSO. AND WE MUST BEAR IN MIND
THAT THE U. S. IS BUILDING A BARGAINING POSITION FOR
THE COMING GATT ROUND. NEVERTHELESS, WE SHOULD TAKE
JUSTIFIED CRITICISM SERIOUSLY AND INDICATE READINESS
TO NEGOTIATE.

COMPARED TO THE '60' S, THE U. S. RELATIONSHIP WITH
EUROPE HAS GENERALLY IMPROVED. THE TWO RECENT MONETARY
CRISES DEMONSTRATE THAT THE U. S. AND EUROPE CAN MUSTER
THE REQUIRED SOLIDARITY. HAVE WE FORGOTTEN THE
FRICTION RESULTING IN 1963 FROM THE FRENCH VETO OF
BRITAIN' S ACCESSION TO THE COMMON MARKET? AND WE MIGHT
RECALL THAT PRESIDENT KENNEDY TOLD A VISITOR WHO WAS
SUPPOSED TO EXPLAIN TO HIM THE GERMAN- FRENCH TREATY,
'YOU WANT TO STAB USIN THE BACK.' WHAT IS INTERPRETED
AS A CRISIS ACTUALLY CONCERNS SOMETHING ELSE: THE U. S.
IS TRYING TO BROADEN INTERNATIONAL STABILITY. THE
PILLARS OF THIS STRUCTURE ARE THE U. S. AND THE SOVIET
UNION, BUT ALSO CHINA, JAPAN AND WESTERN EUROPE. THE
QUEST FOR A PENTAGON OF BALANCE REVEALS THAT AT LEAST
ONE ANGLE IS MISSING -- A POLITICALLY UNITED WESTERN
EUROPE. DISPLEASURE WITH THIS IS MOUNTING. AMERICAN
INDUSTRY CONSIDERS THE COMMON MARKET A TROUBLESOME
COMPETITOR. THE POLITICAL RELIEF IT WAS EXPECTED TO
FURNISH HAS NOT MATERIALIZED. THERE IS NO EUROPEAN
AUTHORITY FOR QUESTIONS OF WORLD POLITICS. 'WHEN WE
CALL YOU NOBODY PICKS UP THE RECEIVER,' AN AMERICAN
INTERLOCUTOR TOLD ME.

THE IDEA OF EQUAL PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN AMERICAN AND
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THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES UNFORTUNATELY STILL IS WISHFUL

THINKING. IT WILL REMAIN SO AS LONG AS THE EUROPEANS
CONSIDER THE AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT ON THEIR CONTINENT AS
NATURAL, ARE NOT RESPONSIVE TO A TRANS- ATLANTIC
DIALOGUE, AND REFUSE TO ASSUME MORE RESPONSIBILITY IN
WORLD POLITICS. THE AMERICANS SURELY ALSO DEFEND THEIR
OWN INTERESTS IN EUROPE. THEIR PRESENCE FORMS PART OF
A NECESSARY POLICY OF ALLIANCE. BUT WHO SAYS THAT
THAT RATIONALE ALWAYS PREVAILS IN POLITICS, THAT THE
RIGHT THING IS ALWAYS DONE? THUS THE POST- WORLD WAR
ONE SITUATION WAS MARKED BY AMERICAN ISOLATIONISM AND
BY THE U. S. TURNING AWAY FROM EUROPE. POST- WORLD WAR
TWO DEVELOPMENTS MIGHT HAVE DEVELOPED DIFFERENTLY THAN
E E E E E E E

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN05505
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730442/aaaainzm.tel
Line Count: 234
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 03 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <16-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> jms 980115
Subject: FRG FONMIN' S VIEWS ON US- EUROPEAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, GW, n/a
To: ANKARA
ATHENS
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
EUR
LISBON
LONDON

SECSTATE WASHDC

THE HAGUE

Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005